WINTER 1979

Columbia Seminary Vantage

COLUMBIA FORUM A SUCCESS

The brochure advertising the *Columbia Forum* stated, "Three excellent speakers . . . a full program . . . four action packed days!" This prophecy became a reality as students, faculty, alumni/ae, members of the Seminary community, and guests from far and wide converged on the Seminary campus during the week of January 30. The week of lectures, worship services, colloquies and class reunions attracted a record attendance and a very positive response.

Smyth Lecturer, Dr. Krister Stendahl, shared perceptive insights on the subject of "The Church—God's Laboratory for the Kingdom." Dr. Ralph D. Winter, the Alumni Lecturer, wrestled with the question, "Can the Local Church Change the World?" and Guest Preacher, Dr. James A. Forbes, proved to be a pulpit master as he proclaimed the Word of God with power.

Two highlights of the *Columbia Forum* this year were the Alumni Association Luncheon when the graduates of Columbia Seminary honored Professor Hubert Vance Taylor for his 31 years of dedicated service and the Alumni Class Reunion Luncheon that featured Professor J. Will Ormond as speaker.

Commenting on the resurgence of interest that has characterized the *Columbia Forum,* President J. Davison Philips states, "It is a real source of encouragement to us to see the increased number of persons returning to our campus during the *Columbia Forum.* It confirms our belief that ministers, as well as our students and faculty, want to grow in their understanding of God's Word and in their competence for ministry."

DOCTOR OF MINISTRY CORE SEMINAR GROUP ON CAMPUS

DOCTOR OF MINISTRY PROGRAM GROWING

Seventy-nine ministers are presently enrolled in Columbia Seminary's D.Min. (In-Ministry) program. The twenty-four persons pictured above represent a variety of national and denominational backgrounds. They recently completed the Doctor of Ministry Core Seminar which met four times over a period of three months on the Columbia campus. This seminar, which is the first step in Columbia's D.Min. program, is conducted each year in cooperation with the Interdenominational Theological Center and the Candler School of Theology of Emory University, Columbia's partners in the Atlanta Theological Association. (A fourth member of the ATA, Erskine Seminary, offers no D.Min. degree.)

The rich mix of individuals involved helps to create a healthy atmosphere of mutual support and of learning and spiritual growth.

Dr. James Newsome, Director of Advanced Studies, states, "Columbia Seminary also offered its first extension D.Min. work last fall when ten persons participated in a Core Seminar held on the campus of Presbyterian College, Clinton, South Carolina. Extension D.Min. work in other areas of Columbia's supporting synods is anticipated for the future."

In addition to the Core Seminar, other steps in the program include a clinical experience, six units (three semester hours each) of elective credit work, and a project/dissertation. Since it is possible to do much of this work at or near the place of one's residence, travel time and expense are minimized.

Other graduate degrees offered by CTS are the Master of Theology and the Doctor of Sacred Theology in Pastoral Counseling.

150th ANNIVERSARY APPRECIATION DINNER

Dr. W. Frank Harrington addresses friends of the Seminary at Appreciation Dinner.

There are many ways to say "thank you." On the occasion of its 150th Anniversary, Columbia Seminary extended an invitation to an Appreciation Dinner to those partners in ministry from the Atlanta area who had supported the Seminary through their prayers and gifts over the years.

Some 250 persons accepted the invitation and spent a delightful evening of fellowship and inspiration in the Dining Hall of the Student Center.

President J. Davison Philips expressed sincere appreciation for the dedicated support of so many over a century and a half and delivered a moving address entitled "The Challenge of the Seminary Today."

One of the high moments of the evening was the address by Dr. W. Frank Harrington entitled "The Challenge of the Ministry Today." Dr. Harrington, a 1960 alumnus of Columbia, currently the senior minister of the Peachtree Presbyterian Church of Atlanta, underscored the importance of developing a dynamic and vital congregation to meet the deep-felt needs of persons today.

President Emeritus, J. McDowell Richards gathered together the thoughts, the hopes and the dreams of those gathered in his "Prayer for the Seminary."

1980 COLUMBIA FORUM

January 29 - February 1

Alumni Lecturer - Wm. V. Arnold

Smyth Lecturer - Jan Lochman

Guest Preacher - E. T. Campbell

1978-79 Doctor of Ministry Interns

Left to right, first row: John Kelsay, Rusty Douglas, Bill Kelly, Raymond Guterman; second row: Lane Alderman, David Chadwick, Prof. Nickle, Prof Long, Billy Wade

Columbia Theological Seminary, 701 Columbia Drive, Decatur, Ga., 30031. Vantage, Vol. 71, No. 1, Richard A. Dodds, Editor, Published Quarterly. Second Class Postage Paid at Decatur, Ga., Publication No. 124160.

FROM the PRESIDENT

On a cold January night, seven students and two wives sat around the fire in the President's home with Professor and Mrs. Keith and Mrs. Philips and myself. The students were on campus for a review of a year-long intern program in local churches required for those taking the Doctor of Ministry degree. We talked for two hours about what the year is meaning to them and the significant experiences they are having. To churches in Auburn and Anniston, Alabama; Gastonia and Wilmington, North Carolina; Houston, Texas; Leesburg, Georgia, and Metairie, Louisiana, we extend our thanks for serving as a part of the "campus and curriculum" of Columbia Seminary in this way. Many others join us for the summer supervised ministry program, also. This "learning by doing" under supervision is an important way of preparing for effective ministry.

It is essential, of course, that students devote substantial amounts of time to the traditional academic studies—Theology, Bible, History, Homiletics, Church Polity, Evangelism, and Ethics. However, all of this becomes more meaningful in ministry if it is utilized in actual experience.

As we move closer to Graduation Day, our seniors are seeking calls in churches and other places of ministry. We commend these men and women to you for your prayerful support and consideration.

I look back over three years of involvement in this important mission here, and am grateful for God's direction and blessing in it. To you, personally, I extend the appreciation of 318 students, 26 Faculty and Staff, and our 30 Directors for your partnership with us. May 1979 be a year of growth and blessing for each of us!

Faithfully yours,

J. Davison Philips

J. Davison Philips

New members of the Board of Directors, left to right: Mrs. Mary G. Russ, Rev. J. Trent Howell, President Philips, Board Chairman Noble, Rev. Robert F. Inman, Dr. Mary Boney Sheats.

Mr. Howell Adams, Chairman of the President's Advisory Council, addresses the Board of Directors.

BOARD ACTIONS

The Board of Directors of Columbia Seminary, representing the Synods of Florida, Mid-South, and Southeast met on November 14 and 15, 1978 at the Seminary. Among its more significant actions were:

1. The welcoming of the new members of the Board of Directors: The Reverend J. Trent Howell and Dr. Mary Boney Sheats from the Synod of the Southeast; The Reverend Robert F. Inman and Mrs. Mary G. Russ from the Synod of Florida.

2. The election of the 1978-79 Officers of the Board: Chairman — Dr. J. Phillips Noble, Vice Chairman — Champney A. McNair, Secretary — Mrs. Emily C. Wood.

3. A resolution of appreciation and commendation for Professor Hubert Vance Taylor for his 31 years of inspired service as a member of the faculty upon his retirement January 31, 1979.

4. A resolution expressing appreciation to Dr. Milton H. Gardiner for his service as Director of the Atlanta Theological Association prior to his accepting a call to become the Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Troy, New York.

5. The granting of tenure to Dr. Frederick C. Bonkovsky as Associate Professor of Christian Ethics.

6. The expression of deep gratitude to J. Erskine Love, Jr., now completing nine years of service on the Board and under the policies of the Synod of the Southeast ineligible for reelection, for his devoted and helpful leadership in the total life of the Seminary.

7. The expression of sincere appreciation to three directors completing distinguished service on the Board, namely: The Reverend Richard T. Harbison, The Reverend Dr. W. Frank Harrington, and Professor Robert E. Lee.

8. A resolution expressing continuing gratitude to the anonymous foundation for the generous Challenge Grant of $1,000,000 to be used in securing matching funds, with the assurance that a Physical Plant Endowment Fund will be set up with the proceeds.

9. The approval of a Charitable Gift Annuity Program.

10. The approval of a Capital Funds Campaign in the Synod of Florida to be launched in the Fall of 1979 with a goal of $1,500,000 using the counsel of the firm of Ketchum, Inc.

11. The hearty commendation of the Faculty and Staff of the Seminary who have made gifts and pledges of $13,285 to the 1978-79 Columbia Seminary Fund. This represents 100% participation.

12. The approval of the Columbia Seminary Associates Program.

President Philips with new Board Chairman J. Phillips Noble

THE NEW CHAIRMAN

The Rev. J. Phillips Noble, the Senior Minister of the First (Scots) Presbyterian Church of Charleston, SC, was elected Chairman of the Board of Directors of Columbia Seminary on November 14.

Dr. Noble is a graduate of King College and received his Master of Divinity degree from Columbia Theological Seminary. He was elected Moderator of the Synod of Alabama in 1969 and was awarded the Doctor of Divinity degree from Southwestern in 1971.

Numbered among the pastorates of Dr. Noble are the Second Presbyterian Church, Greenville, SC, and First Presbyterian, Anniston, AL.

Commenting on the election of the new Chairman, President J. Davison Philips stated, "Columbia Seminary has been blessed over the years in having able dedicated officers to provide dynamic leadership for the Board of Directors. The election of Dr. Noble as the Chairman of the Board is a strong indication that this worthy tradition will be continued. He brings to this position of leadership over three decades of outstanding service in some of the major pulpits of our denomination and in the courts of our church."

HONORING HUBERT VANCE TAYLOR

Dr. Hubert Vance Taylor
Professor of
Public Speech and Music
1947-1979

The Annual Alumni Luncheon of Columbia Theological Seminary, held on January 31, 1979, was the occasion for honoring Dr. Hubert Vance Taylor upon his retirement. Here are some of the remarks that were included in the address of Professor Wade P. Huie, Jr.

"Professor of Public Speech and Music . . . but that's not all. He also taught homiletics, worship, television, communications, sacraments, hymnody and various types of ministry courses. He also served as Choir Director and Audio-Visual Director.

"He reminds me of a professor who taught at the Seminary when it was in Columbia, South Carolina, and gave me such a laundry list of subjects he taught. Then he added, 'I didn't have a *chair;* I occupied a *settee.*'

"Teaching from a *settee* calls for elasticity, flexibility and openness. So as Hubert Taylor moved from the first, to the second, to the third, and even to the fourth decade of teaching, he demonstrated an ability to adapt to new ways of learning and new ways of teaching. In his adaptability, he never became a chameleon. He can be stubborn with his convictions, but always tries to be open to persons and new ideas and new methods.

"For 21 years he and I have been colleagues. I am grateful for his patient and cooperative spirit, for his probing manner, for his caring enough to be critical, for the way he goes the second mile, for the way he senses hurt when hurt is near. More times than he realized, he served as my pastor. I am impressed with the way he sometimes seems to have grown younger rather than older.

"Hubert Taylor's ministry has extended far beyond our campus, working actively in the courts of the Church, seeking to keep the Protestant Radio and Television Center afloat, directing music on the Protestant Hour, leading conferences at Montreat, conducting workships with Chaplains in the armed forces. He is one of only two PCUS leaders whose names are listed in the front of THE HYMNBOOK and THE WORSHIPBOOK.

"Along with his partner, Claire, he has led creative music programs at Central Presbyterian Church in Atlanta and Columbia Presbyterian across the street. When you go to worship at Columbia, you hear not only organ, but also drum, horn, cymbal — and you see dancing!

Dr. Wade Huie presents Professor Taylor a sheaf of letters and a check from the Alumni/ae.

"And, on the side he has tried to help politicians communicate — Candidates for Governor in Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia have spent hours with him and video equipment. At one time he coached both Democratic and Republican candidates for Congress from Atlanta. Finally, he got one of his students in the White House. Did Hubert Taylor teach Jimmy Carter to speak? Well, what do you imagine Billy Carter's brother sounded like before Hubert Taylor worked with him?

"In recent weeks well over 100 letters have arrived at the Seminary from around the world addressed to Hubert Vance Taylor. They say so much better what I would like to say, so I share a few lines from them —

Mrs. Claire Taylor listens as her husband is honored.

'You have that rare capacity of bringing out the best in people.'

'Thank you for . . . helping my voice last longer. Remember old voices never retire; they just get hoarse more often.'

'As one retiree to another — the best is yet to be!'

'You perhaps do not remember the problem I had with stuttering when I entered the Seminary. Your encouragement was a tremendous help to me in overcoming this handicap.'

'I found under your guidance a sense of freedom in the pulpit that has remained with me ever since.'

'May the next chapter be the greatest and most satisfying of all!"

"Hubert, we set a deadline for the letters to arrive, but you know how students were — and are. Late work! Letters keep arriving, and others are on the way. So we haven't bound them yet. But here they are, and they say for all of us —

We admire you.
We care for you.
We thank you.
GOD BLESS!"

Vice President Joe Harvard presents golf clubs to Dr. Taylor on behalf of Alumni/ae.

1979 COLUMBIA FORUM HIGHLIGHTS

The opening Worship Service with President Philips, Guest Preacher Dr. James Forbes and Professor Long.

Smyth Lecturer Dean Krister Stendahl delivering one of his lectures on "The Church".

Alumni Council members give their rapt attention during Annual Meeting.

The CTS Chorus singing during the Alumni Association Luncheon. From left to right: Elaine McRobbie, JoAnne Dyson, Peggy Hegeman and Deborah Kyser.

Alumni Lecturer Dr. Ralph Winter wrestles with the subject "Can the Local Church Save the World?"

Professor J. Will Ormond addressing the Alumni Reunion Classes

THE 25TH ANIMVERSARY CLASS REUNION

THE 50TH ANIMVERSARY CLASS REUNION

LEARNING CREATIVITY IN MINISTRY

Student William Pender and Professor Oscar Hussel discuss a few of the creative projects from the course, "Planning the Congregation's Educational Program."

Two ministers were talking. One said, "I don't think seminaries teach enough about the practice of ministry." The other minister disagreed, "I think seminaries don't teach enough Bible and theology."

Dr. Oscar Hussel, Associate Professor of Christian Education and Dean of Academic Affairs at Columbia, would have difficulty with both of these points of view. He feels strongly that practice and content in the seminary's curriculum are both important and cannot be separated. He believes that they must be brought together to provide the training necessary to minister effectively in the Church of Jesus Christ today.

Columbia Seminary's curriculum is designed to bring theory and practice together into informed ministry. In addition to courses in the Biblical, Historical - Doctrinal, and Pastoral areas, there are Supervised Ministry and Interdisciplinary courses.

Knowledge, skills and integrative understanding are very important in development for ministry but are not enough. What more is needed? Not just excellence—a higher level of doing, but creativity. Creativity is based upon an understanding of ministry which has evolved from the integration of theory and practice, but is not dependent entirely on them. Creativity allows a minister to innovate, to apply old learnings to new ways and in different combinations. Creativity encourages the Spirit to work in ministry.

A good example of creativity in ministry was demonstrated in a course offered by Dr. Hussel during the Fall Semester entitled, 'Planning the Congregation's Educational Program." In the course, students were exposed to a variety of theoretical planning models while practice sessions were offered to encourage creativity.

Dr. Hussel was very pleased with the creativity expressed in the projects developed by the students. He states, "The final project designed by each student went beyond the encouragement of creativity to the demanding of it. No papers were allowed. For some the project took the form of a planning game, a manual for Church School teachers, a scroll picture of a planning process or a three dimensional artistic model. The students understood that creativity was valued.'"

Creativity cannot be taught. But it can be learned, really relearned for all of us are born creative. It is not too late; give it a try in creative ways of being a Christian.

CONFERENCE ON MINISTRY SET

Columbia Seminary is sponsoring a *Conference On The Ministry* on the weekend of *April 27-92*. This conference, held at the Seminary, is geared primarily for those men and women who are considering a vocational change into the ministry. This weekend will be an excellent opportunity for people to visit Columbia's campus, to talk with faculty, staff and student's, to sit in on several classes, to worship with the Seminary community and to further explore their own sense of call to ministry. Interested persons may contact Harry Barrow or the Admissions Office for more information about this conference.

MEETING OF
THE PRESIDENT'S
ADVISORY COUNCIL
APRIL 17, 1979

"CONTINUING ED" OFFERINGS

"Continuing Ed" is a busy man on the Columbia campus these days. He reports, "There are a wide variety of courses, seminars and workshops being offered throughout the year at times convenient to the schedules of most ministers."

The annual January Seminars for Ministers recently held included events in areas of Biblical Theology, Systematic Theology, Christian Ethics, and Marital Conflict. These seminars lasted for three days and drew fifty-eight participants. Cassette tapes of some of these events have been made available to Presbyterian Church, U.S. ministers on a loan basis through the seminary library.

Other Continuing Education (non-credit) events planned for this academic year include the following two seminars: "The Minister's Use of Literature" taught by Dr. W. Edward McNair, Professor Emeritus of English Literature, Agnes Scott College (March 13-15) and "Between the Testaments" taught by CTS Professor Ludwig Dewitz (April 17-19).

To round out future plans: Columbia's Summer Session will be held on campus July 16-August 10 and will feature a variety of credit and non-credit offerings. And during the dates September 5-14, Dr. C. Peter Wagner of Fuller Theological Seminary will offer "Principles and Procedures of Church Growth" on the Columbia campus. This event, jointly sponsored by Columbia and Fuller Seminaries and by Atlanta Presbytery may be taken on a credit (by D.Min. students) or a non-credit basis.

"COME SEE COLUMBIA DAY"

The Columbia Friendship Circle's annual "Come See Columbia Day" has been set for Thursday, April 5th. On that day, CFC members from the Synods of Florida, the Mid-South and the Southeast will be gathering for a day at Columbia Seminary.

Activities planned for this day include a worship service, a convocation, a luncheon, a time to meet with Columbia faculty, staff, and students. There will also be an opportunity to tour Columbia's campus. At the convocation, CFC's current project — the sponsorship of Columbia Fellowships (special one-year scholarships) will be discussed and a new CFC Project will be acted upon.

MID-SOUTH CAMPAIGN PROGRESS REPORT

The Synod of the Mid-South's Campaign for Theological Education is now entering a crucial phase. Sessions and local church Campaign Committees throughout the Synod are planning programs designed to give individual members the opportunity to make personal commitments to undergird the work of Columbia and Louisville Theological Seminaries.

Columbia Seminary's share of the Campaign will be used in a threefold way:

1. To provide scholarship aid for students enrolled from the Synod of the Mid-South **$250,000.**
2. For completion of the J. McDowell Richards Fund for Continuing Education **$250.000.**
3. To provide endowment for the Peter Marshall Chair of Homiletics **$200.000.**

Total Amount **$700.000.**

As of February 14, 1979, an amount of $160,707 has been given or pledged to the Campaign with $81,252 designated for Columbia Seminary. The goal for the Synod's Campaign is $2½ million.

FIVE CHURCH FIELD SUPPORTS CAMPAIGN

The Rev. John Magee (far right) stands with the members of the Erata Presbyterian Church, one of the five churches he serves as Pastor.

John Magee, a 1944 alumnus of Columbia Seminary, is pastor of a five-church field in South Mississippi Presbytery. Attending one of the Mid-South Campaign for Theological Education "Informational Meetings" in November, John expressed an interest in getting his churches involved in the Campaign.

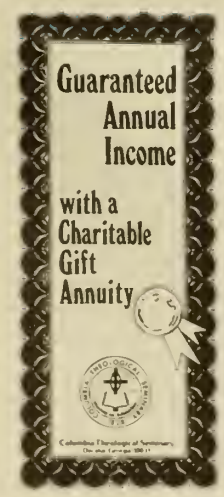
He invited the Rev. Richard Dodds, Director of Seminary Relations at Columbia to visit his churches, inform them about the challenging opportunity of the Campaign, and to preach. Dick visited the field and preached in each of the five churches on Sunday, January 21.

Commenting on the experience of preaching in five churches on one Sunday, Dick Dodds said, "Although it was an exhausting experience, I must confess that my admiration for faithful ministers of the Word like John Magee, who serve multiple church fields, has increased appreciably. I also have a great deal of respect for the caring parishioners of these churches who continue to have a Presbyterian witness in rural communities and small towns."

As a result of John's leadership, he and his wife, Margaret, along with the New Liberty, Erata, Sandersville, Pisgah and McFarland Presbyterian Churches hope to give five shares ($300 a share) for a total of $1,500 to the Synod's Campaign for Theological Education.

It is this kind of dedicated involvement that will enable the goals of the Synod's Campaign to be fulfilled.

INTRODUCING COLUMBIA THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY'S CHARITABLE GIFT ANNUITY PROGRAM



Send inquiries to:
Rev. Richard A. Dodds
Director of Seminary Relations
COLUMBIA THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
Decatur, Georgia 30031

BENEFITS

- You receive an income guaranteed for life at an annual rate of 5.8% to 12%, depending on age.
- You can choose from a Single or Two-Life Annuity in which two persons share the benefits for life.
- You receive substantial tax benefits, including tax free income, capital gains savings, charitable deductions and no estate tax.
- You are assured of the joy of sharing in the preparation of young persons for ministry.
- You retain maximum financial security and safety while being freed of burdensome investment decisions.
- Your Gift Annuity may be created with cash, securities, real estate or other property.

Dear Mr. Dodds,
Please send me a list of the benefits of your Charitable Gift Annuity Program. I understand there is no obligation.

_____
Name(s)
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Address
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City State Zip
_____
Telephone

I am interested in:

_____ Single Life Annuity

Birth Date: _____

_____ Two Life Annuity

Birth Dates: _____

The Gift Annuity Principal I have in mind is: $_____

Alumni President J. Frank Alexander presiding at Annual Association Meeting.

IN MEMORIAM

The following graduates of Columbia Theological Seminary became a part of the Church Triumphant during 1978:

	Class of		Class of
J. Samuel Lack	1921	W. Creed Cooper	1929
Ernest L. Barber	1922	Hugh S. Fite	1938
Marshall B. Dendy	1924	James S. Cantrell	1939
Carl W. McMurray	1924	Eugene P. Poe	1948
Robert C. Dorn	1928	John A. Luddy, Jr.	1963
Eugene T. Wilson	1928	James R. Wilburn	1966

"Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord; yea saith the Spirit that they may rest from their labors, and their works do follow them."

— Revelation 14:13

COUNCIL UPDATE

The Annual Meeting of the Alumni/ae Council was held on January 30. The Council, comprised of 30 graduates from Columbia's supporting Synods and beyond, spent a profitable afternoon receiving reports from students, faculty and staff.

J. Frank Alexander, President, presided over the Council Meeting. Vice President Joe Harvard led the Council in an exercise entitled "Feedback on Our Seminary Education." Some interesting insights were gained when the Council members reflected on their seminary training and on the elements most essential in preparing ministers today.

The Council approved the slate of officers for 1979. They are:

Lawrence Wood — President
Alice Johnson — Vice President
Tom Aycock — Sec'y-Treasurer

One of the highlights of the meeting was the time given over to meeting some of the students. Dean Erskine Clarke presented Asumang-Birikorang, William Pender and Emmie Young who shared their sense of call to the ministry and what role Columbia Seminary was having in their preparation for ministry.

The Council adopted Scholarship Aid as the project for 1979-80.

OLDEST ALUMUS

Dr. T. Ellison Simpson, the oldest living alumnus of Columbia Theological Seminary, recently celebrated his 100th birthday at the Darlington Convalescent Center in Darlington, South Carolina.

Dr. Simpson served as the pastor of churches in Society Hill, S.C. and Hendersonville, N.C. before becoming the minister of the Darlington Presbyterian Church in 1929.

In a birthday greeting to Dr. Simpson, President J. Davison Philips wrote, "All of us here at Columbia Seminary send you sincere birthday greetings and hearty congratulations. We are honored that you are a graduate of Columbia Seminary. May God's goodness and mercy continue to follow you all the days of your life."

SEMINARY DAY - APRIL 22

The PCUS has designated April 22, 1979, as Seminary Day. Columbia Theological Seminary will participate in this special day in several ways. First, churches in the Synod of the Mid-South will receive specially designed Bulletin Inserts emphasizing the goals of the Synod's Campaign for Theological Education in support of Columbia and Louisville Seminaries. Also, the congregations of the Synods of Florida and the Southeast will have the opportunity of ordering Bulletin Inserts that point up the mission and the purposes of Coumbia as the Seminary enters its 151st year.

Secondly, on April 22, Columbia faculty, staff and students will be leading worship services and preaching in churches in St. Johns Presbytery, Florida. It is hoped that through this venture with St. Johns Presbytery these participating churches can become more involved in the purpose and mission of Columbia Seminary.

COLUMBIA THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY, 701 COLUMBIA DRIVE, DECATUR, GEORGIA 30031
Vol. 71, No. 1/Winter 1979
Richard A. Dodds, Editor
Published Quarterly

Second Class Postage Paid at Decatur, Ga.
Publication No. 124160

Columbia Theological Seminary

Vantage